



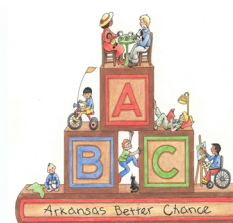
THE ARKANSAS EARLY CHILDHOOD LETTER



Arkansas Department
of Human Services

January/February 2005

ARKANSAS BETTER CHANCE PUBLIC MEETINGS



A series of public meetings has been scheduled to present information on the Arkansas Better Chance for School Success Program. The purpose of these meetings will be to provide an opportunity for persons to comment on proposed ABC rule changes, as well as to discuss the procedure on how to apply for participation for the 2005-2006 academic year. The application to become an ABC program site (Request for Proposal) will be available later in March. You may obtain a copy of the Request for Proposal, as well as a copy of proposed rule changes, from our website, www.arkansas.gov/childcare, by calling 501-682-9699 or by writing to Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education, Attn: Paul Lazenby, P.O. Box 1437, Slot S-160, Little Rock, AR 72203.

DATE	LOCATION	DATE	LOCATION
February 21, 2005 9:30-11:30 a.m.	Parker Center 811 North T Street Fort Smith, AR 479-784-8182	February 25, 2005 1:30-3:30 p.m.	Ark. Dept. of Human Services Donaghey Plaza South First Floor Conference Room B 700 Main Street Little Rock, AR 501-682-9699
February 22, 2005 9:30-11:30 a.m.	Arkansas Community College 11700 New Castle Road Room B129, Learning Resource Center Forrest City, AR 870-633-4480	February 28, 2005 9:30-11:30 a.m.	Southwest Ark. Ed. Coop. 500 Spruce Street Hope, AR 870-777-3076
February 24, 2005 9:30-11:30 a.m.	ASU Childhood Services 615 University Loop Jonesboro, AR 870-972-3055	March 1, 2005 9:30-11:30 a.m.	Jones Center for Families Kansas City Room (#226) 922 East Emma St. Springdale, AR
February 25, 2005 9:30-11:30 a.m.	Ark. River Education Coop. 912 West Sixth Pine Bluff, AR 870-534-7957	March 1, 2005 9:30-11:30 a.m.	Ark. Dep. of Human Services Donaghey Plaza South First Floor Conference Room B 700 Main Street Little Rock, AR 501-682-9699

THE ARKANSAS
EARLY CHILDHOOD LETTER



The Arkansas Early Childhood
Commission
Mike Huckabee, Governor
Tonya Russell, Director
Lee Vent, Chairman

Karen Beaton
Bruce Cohen
Dr. Kara Cooper
Debra Davis
Jody Veit-Edrington
Dr. Doretha Davis
Barbara Gilkey
Dr. Joan Harper
Jerry Hudlow
Debbie Malone
Karen Massey
LaCher Rockins
Hallie Sanford
Lee Simpson
Laura Sparks
Susan Underwood
Suellen Ward

PO BOX 1437, SLOT S140
LITTLE ROCK, AR 72203-4608
(501) 682-4891
Fax(501)682-4897
www.arkansas.gov/childcare

The Arkansas Early Childhood Letter is
an information service of the
Division of Child Care and Early
Childhood Education,
Department of Human Services.



MOVING KIDS SAFELY IN CHILD CARE

An Introduction to Child Passenger
Safety for Child Care Professionals

Who will benefit from this training?

- Child care professionals (group and in-home) who transport children as a service to parents, who take children on field trips, or who may have to transport children on an “as needed” basis.
- Drivers, aides, administrators, transportation coordinators, DHS licensing specialists/supervisors, or other individuals who want to make sure children are riding safely in vehicles.
- Foster parents and DCFS staff.
- Parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, or other individuals who are concerned about the safety of a special child.

What will you learn?

- Basic child passenger safety issues
- What child safety seat is appropriate for each child’s age, stage and physical tolerance
- Important information about what ***not*** to do when transporting children
- General information about policies and procedures specifically for child care professionals.

Date: January 25, 2005 or
January 26, 2005

Times: 6:00P.M. - 8:00P.M. or
9:00A.M. - 12:00 Noon

Location: Henderson State University
Garrison Activity/Conference Center,
Room D - 201
1045 McKnight Drive,
Arkadelphia, AR 72923

HSU Contact Person: Cindy Thacker 870-230-5228

Please call 870-246-9886 to register with
Linda Blakney. Seating is limited so please
call to register by January 18, 2005.

Date: April 13, 2005

Time: 11:00A.M. - 1:00P.M.

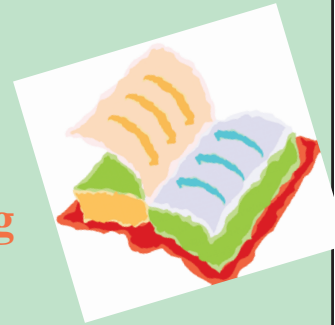
Location: Arkansas River Educational
Cooperative
912 West 6th
Pine Bluff, AR 71611

Please call 870-534-4200 to register with
Carolyn Walker or Thomas Burnett. Seating
is limited so please call to register by April
11, 2005.

Lunch will be provided for daytime sessions,
and dinner will be provided for evening
sessions. We need to know how many people to
expect at each workshop, so that we have
enough CEU Certificates and handouts, and to
order enough food for all participants.

*Moving Kids Safely in Child Care is
co-sponsored by the Department of Human
Services, Division of Child Care & Early
Childhood Education, the Arkansas Head Start
Association, and the University of Arkansas for
Medical Sciences Child Passenger Safety
Education Program.*

Arkansas Child Care Resource Center Catalog



It's finally here! The Resource Center Catalog is now available. We have over 7000 materials ready for you to check out. To order a catalog you may contact Brinda Burr, Resource Center Manager at 501-683-0033 or e-mail her at Brinda.Burr@arkansas.gov

She will mail you a catalog which lists all of the materials available in the resource center for check out. Patrons outside of Pulaski County may call our 1-800 number or use the internet to request materials. One-way mail service will be provided to patrons outside Pulaski County; however, patrons are responsible for return shipment. The catalog will also be on the Division website for your convenience. Log on to www.arkansas.gov/childcare.

The resource center also has a copier, lamination machine and hundreds of ellison dye cuts for you to use. So come check us out today.

Congratulations!

**Thomas J Samaniego
Tracy Murphy
Wendy Goodman
Shalee Morris**

**Wreathie Cohrs
Darlene Crawford
Sherry Lewis**



The Division wants to congratulate these students for completing the child care orientation training at the University Community College at Batesville.

Arkansas Children's Week
April 3 - 9, 2005

T-SHIRT ORDER FORM

T-Shirts for 2005 will be Orange with 3 color logo on front. The bib apron will be white with the 3 color logo. We are also offering a tote bag in natural with 3 color logo. Customization available, call for a quote!

****All orders received by February 9th will be entered into a drawing to win a 13" TV/VCR.****

PLEASE SEND ONLY ONE CHECK AND ONE ORDER FORM PER FACILITY!

LAST DAY TO ORDER IS MARCH 23RD!

T-SHIRT	PRICE	QUANTITY	AMOUNT
TODDLER SHIRT (6-12 mo, White)	\$5.00		
YOUTH X-SMALL (2-4)	\$3.25		
YOUTH SMALL (6-8)	\$3.25		
YOUTH MEDIUM (10-12)	\$3.25		
YOUTH LARGE (14-16)	\$3.25		
ADULT SMALL	\$4.00		
ADULT MEDIUM	\$4.00		
ADULT LARGE	\$4.00		
ADULT X-LARGE	\$4.00		
ADULT 2X-LARGE	\$5.00		
ADULT 3X-LARGE	\$5.00		
BIB APRONS (ONE SIZE)	\$7.50		
TOTE BAG (ONE SIZE)	\$4.50		
		SUBTOTAL	(1)\$
SHIPPING/HANDLING: ORDERS \$0 - \$36 ADD \$6.00 ORDERS \$37 - \$144 ADD \$7.00 ORDERS \$145 - \$432 ADD \$15.00			
YOU MUST INCLUDE SHIPPING!			
TOTAL SHIPPING/HANDLING			(2)\$
i.e. Block (1) + Block (2) SUBTOTAL + SHIPPING/HANDLING			(3)\$
YOU MUST INCLUDE AR SALES TAX i.e. Block (3) x 0.075 = Total Amount Enclosed (Block 5)			
SALES TAX (7.5%)			(4)\$
TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED			(5)\$

MAIL SHIRTS TO:

NAME _____ CONTACT _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL ADDRESS _____

PLEASE MAIL ALL ORDERS WITH CHECK OR MONEY ORDER MADE PAYABLE TO:

M & M PROMOTIONS

P.O. BOX 241222

LITTLE ROCK, AR 72223

(501)224-9881

www.mandmpromotions.com

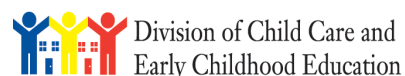


2005 Outstanding Early Childhood Professionals

The Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education and the Arkansas Early Childhood Commission will be accepting nominations for the OUTSTANDING EARLY CHILDHOOD PROFESSIONALS OF 2005.

We are looking for persons who are making a significant contribution to the early childhood field in Arkansas. Our children deserve the best and because of the fine efforts of the professionals throughout our state they receive the best! We want to recognize and honor these persons.

For more information or to request a nomination form you can contact the Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education at 501-682-9699 or 1-800-445-3316 or visit our website at www.arkansas.gov/childcare.



ARKANSAS CHILDREN'S WEEK

APRIL 3 - 9, 2005

LEARNING ALL DAY



The theme for Arkansas Children's Week 2005 is "Learning All Day". The focus will be on recognizing and creating opportunities for learning in all areas. As in past years, the Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education will publish a book of ideas for teaching staff to use with children and families. A series of workshops will support the theme and prepare early care professionals to create opportunities for "Learning All Day"!



Routine time is learning time: Tips for facilitating routines that support learning and development. What makes your day smoother, easier, and more enjoyable? How do you use routines as learning opportunities?

- Arrival and departure
- Meals and snacks
- Clean-up and other transitions
- Rest time
- Diapering/toileting
- Outdoor play
- Circle time
- Balancing a flexible schedule



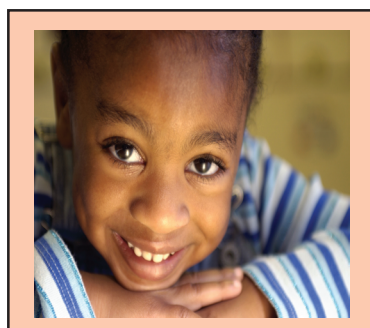
Improvising in learning centers: Ideas for homemade and "scavenged" materials. Tell us about safe, interesting materials that engage children in meaningful play.

- Manipulatives
- Blocks
- Dramatic play
- Sand and water
- Music
- Math and science
- Art
- Language/literacy



Using stories with children: Resources for telling and creating stories: how do you share stories with children and how do they share stories with you?

- Becoming an effective storyteller
- Interactive storytelling



- Techniques for sharing stories
- Children as storytellers

City	Date	Time
Arkadelphia	Saturday, March 12, 2005	9:30am-12:30pm
Batesville	Tuesday, March 15, 2005	6:00-9:00pm
Benton	Monday, March 7, 2005	6:00-9:00pm
Brinkley	Tuesday, March 15, 2005	6:00-9:00pm
Cabot	Tuesday, March 22, 2005	6:00-9:00pm
Clarksville	Tuesday, March 22, 2005	6:00-9:00pm
Conway	Monday, March 14, 2005	6:00-9:00pm
El Dorado	Monday, March 14, 2005	6:00-9:00pm
Fort Smith	Tuesday, March 29, 2005	6:00-9:00pm
Harrison	Thursday, March 10, 2005	6:00-9:00pm
Hot Springs	Thursday, March 10, 2005	6:00-9:00pm
Jonesboro	Thursday, March 10, 2005	6:00-9:00pm
Little Rock	Monday, March 21, 2005	6:00-9:00pm
Magnolia	Tuesday March 8, 2005	6:00-9:00pm
Monticello	Thursday, March 17, 2005	6:00-9:00pm
Mountain Home	Thursday, March 17, 2005	6:00-9:00pm
Pine Bluff	Saturday, March 12, 2005	9:30am-12:30pm
Searcy	Monday, March 28, 2005	6:00-9:00pm
Springdale	Monday, March 7, 2005	6:00-9:00pm
Texarkana	Thursday, March 31, 2005	6:00-9:00pm
Wynne	Tuesday, March 29, 2005	6:00-9:00pm
<p>Participants should bring scissors, markers and glue. For more information or to register for one or more of the workshops call ASU Childhood Services at 870-972-3055 or 888-429-1585, or go online at http://chs.astate.edu and click on Training Opportunities.</p>		

Attn: National School Lunch Program Participants

YOUR 2005-2006 NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM AGREEMENTS WILL BE MAILED TO YOUR SCHOOL/ FACILITY BY APRIL 1, 2005. THE AGREEMENTS MUST BE RETURNED TO THE OFFICE OF SPECIAL NUTRITION PROGRAMS BY MAY 1, 2005.

ALSO: IF YOU ARE CURRENTLY NOT PARTICIPATING IN THE COMMODITY FOOD PROGRAM AND WOULD LIKE TO ENROLL IN THIS PROGRAM, PLEASE INFORM US WHEN YOU COMPLETE YOUR NSLP APPLICATION. FAILURE TO INFORM US OF YOUR WANTING TO PARTICIPATE IN THE COMMODITY FOOD PROGRAM WILL MAKE YOU INELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE FOR THE 2005-2006 SCHOOL YEAR.

THE 2005 ANNUAL NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM TRAINING WILL BE HELD IN JULY. THE TRAINING DATES WILL BE ANNOUNCED.

FOR INTERESTED PARTIES: SHOULD YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT THE NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM PLEASE CALL VICKIE STEWART OR TINA WALTON AT 1-800-482-5850 EXTENSION 682-8869. YOU MAY ALSO EMAIL US AT VICKIE.STEWART OR TINA.WALTON@ARKANSAS.GOV



58 Year Old Organization Making a Few Healthy Changes

INDIANAPOLIS
(July 24, 2004) –

After 58 years promoting healthy, balanced meals for school children, members of the American School Food Service Association voted today to change the name of the organization to the **School Nutrition Association** (SNA). The new name and logo better reflect the Association's strong commitment to working with the education and health communities to provide 33 million nutritious school meals every school day.

Earlier this year a task force evaluated the previous name in light of the Association's mission and agenda and proposed the change. Delegates from 50 state affiliates voted on the name change proposal on Saturday afternoon. Incoming Association President Karen Johnson,

SFNS, explained "School Nutrition Association more accurately reflects who we are, what we're about and how we want to be viewed by other publics." For more information on this program contact Vickie Stewart at 501-682-8848 or 1-800-482-5850.

Promoting Healthy School Meals: Make Marketing Work for You

November 24, 2004 - School nutrition programs can only have a positive impact on the nutrition and health of children if they participate in the program. School nutrition programs can affect students' health not only by providing healthy meals and snack options, but also by working with teachers and other school staff to provide nutrition education and promote healthy foods. For more information on the Nutrition Program call 501-682-8869 or 1-800-482-5850.

TO: Food Service Directors and Managers
FROM: Lynn Jackson, Manager
DHS/DCO Commodity Distribution
DATE: November 18, 2004
RE: Commodity Products for SY – 2004-05

The Commodity Distribution Office has received numerous phone calls and emails regarding the quantity of commodities for this school year opposed to the amount of commodities that was received in school year 2003-04.

Also, there are several factors that regulate the amount of food our office receives to disburse to our School Districts. Each year we must face variances within our program and most of the time these are seamless to you since our office continuously strives to provide excellent customer service.

This year the Commodity Program has encountered the following:

The NSLA requires that at least 12% of federal assistance provided through the School Lunch Program be in the form of commodities. In this school year (2004-05) “bonus” commodities are being counted toward the 12% requirement (this decreased commodity assistance by at least \$55 million per year); this means an overall loss of about 80 million pounds of commodity foods per year.

What does the above statement mean for the Arkansas Commodity Office? We have experienced a reduction of 1.5 million dollars in our Food Entitlement Budget for the National School Lunch Program in SFY 2004-05.

At the beginning of this school year our office received a Commodity Program Summary Report which stated that we would receive approximately 10.7 million dollars to purchase commodities. We’ve recently received a budget cut reducing this amount to 8.9 million dollars to purchase food.

The USDA Marketing Services Department of the FNS has been overwhelmed trying to purchase commodities at a fair labor market price. What does this mean? It means that we ordered meat products that were not purchased by USDA.

The Commodity Office apologizes for any inconveniences the lack of products may have caused you; but we are sending your school as many products as possible. Please remember that it is our pleasure to serve you and that the types of products we purchase are due to the recommendations of your Food Service Advisory Committee.

If you would like to join the Advisory Committee or have any additional questions; please feel free to call our office at (501) 371-1400.



READY FOR A FIELD TRIP?



CHILDREN of Northcentral Arkansas and White River Planning and Development District's Child Care Food Program announce their Sixth Annual Spring Children's Concert on March 31, and April 1, 2005, featuring nationally recognized recording artist and early childhood educator, Mr. Al. Mr. Al will deliver two live performances at the John E. Miller Auditorium on the Ozarka College Campus in Melbourne on Thursday, March 31st. The performance times will be 9:30 a.m. and 12:00 noon. Then on Friday, April 1st, Mr. Al will perform at the Benson Auditorium on the campus of Harding University in Searcy at 11:30 a.m. Each performance will be approximately 1 hour in length. Mr. Al is a gifted musician with a special talent in teaching children and adults through music, movement, singing and laughter. The program is geared to preschool (3-5 years) through second grade. Cost per person for both children and adults is \$3.00 per person.



Seating is limited. Call for ticket information or reservations. Reservations will be accepted by phone beginning January 14, 2005 at 800-737-2237 or in Batesville at 870-793-5233. Phone reservations may be changed (increasing or decreasing the number attending) until March 1, 2005. Parents and grandparents are also encouraged to attend. Invoices will be mailed to each school, family child care or center facility by March 10, 2005. The proceeds will benefit the Northcentral Arkansas Child Care Resource Center. Also sponsoring the events are Harding University's Family and Consumer Science Department, Ozarka College and the Wal-Mart Foundation.

NOVEMBER 2004 RECALLS

[CPSC, Meijer Distribution Inc. Announce Recall of Children's Snow Suits, Jackets](#)

Meijer Distribution Inc., of Grand Rapids , Mich. is voluntarily recalling about 14,400 children's snow suits and jackets. These snow suits and jackets have decorative compasses and corded zipper pull tags that can come off, posing a choking hazard to young children.

[CPSC, Hanna Andersson Announce Recall of Children's Corduroy Overalls](#)

Hanna Andersson of Portland , Oregon is voluntarily recalling About 1,900 Children's Corduroy Overalls. The buttons on the front and side panels of the overalls can detach from the garment, posing a choking hazard to young children.

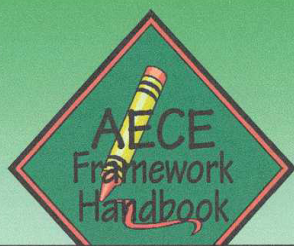
[CPSC, J.C. Penney Corporation Inc. Announce Recall of Children's Pajama Sets](#)

J.C. Penney Corporation, of Plano , Texas is voluntarily recalling about 41,300 Okie Dokie alligator football pajama sets. The heat-sealed patches on the front of the garment can detach, posing a possible choking hazard to young children.

[CPSC, Petit Bateau Announce Recall of Children's Bathrobes](#)

Petit Bateau, of Millburn , N.J. is voluntarily recalling about 2,700 children's bathrobes. These robes fail to meet the children's sleepwear flammability standards, posing a risk of burn injury to children due to the possible ignition of the garment.

For more information contact the Office of the Attorney General at 501-682-2341 or 1-800-482-8982.



Arkansas Early Childhood Education Framework
for Three and Four Year Old Children Course

The 45-hour course entitled, *Arkansas Early Childhood Education Framework Handbook for Three and Four Year Old Children Course* (AECE Framework Handbook Course) has been designed to train early childhood professionals in the use of the *AECE Framework Handbook*.

The *AECE Framework Handbook Course* consists of three 15-hour classes. A participant may choose to take one or more of the classes. They may be taken in any order. The classes have been written to be stand-alone classes so participants can take the ones that interest them the most.

Developed by

College of Education & Health Professions and
School of Human & Environmental Sciences,
University of Arkansas

in cooperation with

Division of Child Care & Early Childhood Education
Arkansas Department of Human Services



For more information contact:

Bobbie T. Biggs, Ph.D., Project Director
1 University of Arkansas
114 Graduate Education
Fayetteville, AR 72701-1201
800-632-8754 or 479-575-6637



The 45-hour AECE Framework Handbook Course consists of the following three 15-hour classes and lessons:

Class 1 – Arkansas Early Childhood Education Framework Handbook for Three and Four Year Old Children: An Introduction

- ◆ Overview of the *AECE Framework Handbook*
- ◆ The *AECE Framework* and Curriculum Development
- ◆ Knowing Children: Theory and Research
- ◆ Knowing Children: Child Development
- ◆ Preparing the Environment

Class 2 – Arkansas Early Childhood Education Framework Handbook for Three and Four Year Old Children: Curriculum Planning and Activities

- ◆ Reviewing the *AECE Framework Handbook*
- ◆ Developing Topics of Study
- ◆ Planning Activities
- ◆ Engaging Families
- ◆ Involving Communities

Class 3 – Arkansas Early Childhood Education Framework Handbook for Three and Four Year Old Children: Observation and Assessment

- ◆ Reviewing the *AECE Framework Handbook*
- ◆ Assessment and Curriculum
- ◆ Observation and Written Records
- ◆ Checklists
- ◆ Using the *Developmental Rating Scale*
- ◆ Portfolios and Storage
- ◆ Sharing Assessment

The training offers child care professionals:

- ◆ Instruction in the use of the *AECE Framework Handbook*, curriculum planning and activities, and assessment and observation in the preschool classroom.
- ◆ A FREE participant manual.
- ◆ A FREE text and training materials.
- ◆ Opportunity for professional development and interaction with other child care professionals.
- ◆ A certificate of completion.
- ◆ Continuing Education Units (CEUs).



Department of Human Services
Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education
P.O. Box 1437, Slot S140
Little Rock, AR 72203-4608

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PUBLIC HEARINGS CHILD CARE VOUCHER PROGRAM

You are invited to attend the public hearings regarding the provider's responsibilities and the department's responsibilities concerning participation in the Child Care Voucher Program. For more information or to register contact the Family Support Unit at 501-682-8947 or 1-800-322-8176 or call your local DHS office.

January 20, 2005

10:00am - 12:00noon
Bancorp South
200 Elm Street
Hope, AR 71801
Phone: 870-777-2313

January 21, 2005

10:00am - 12:00noon
Sebastian County DHS Office
Room 362
616 Garrison
Fort Smith, AR 72901
Phone: 479-782-4555

January 25, 2005

10:00am - 12:00noon
Craighead County DHS
The Service Center
2920 McClellan Drive
Jonesboro, AR 72401
Room: 1112 (This conference
room is down stairs.)
Phone: 870-972-1732

January 24, 2005

10:00am - 12:00noon
Good Faith Fund
2301 W. 29th
Pine Bluff, AR 71603
Phone: 870-535-6233

January 24, 2005

2:00pm - 4:00pm
DHS Office 7th and Main
Little Rock, AR 72203
Phone: 501-682-8947

To obtain a copy of the
Revised 9800 call 501-
682-8947 or 1-800-322-
8176 or visit our website
at [www.arkansas.gov/
childcare](http://www.arkansas.gov/childcare).